

# News Release

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December 1, 2005

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## **OGDEN BUILDINGS ON NATIONAL REGISTER**

The National Park Service has announced the latest Utah listing on the National Register of Historic Places: the American Can Company complex in Ogden. This complex of eight buildings, built in phases between 1914 and 1930, show the role Ogden once had as one of the top five canning centers in the U.S. The buildings, which have been a landmark in Ogden for decades, are now being revitalized into a center for technology.

"This project is a great marriage of the past and the future," says Philip F. Notarianni, director of the Division of State History. "It's just one example of the way historic buildings can bring life, energy, and uniqueness into cities. In turn, areas that use their historic buildings in interesting ways attract creative businesses and talent."

Early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the American Can Company decided to build a plant in Ogden because the city was a hub of railroad transportation and the center of a productive agricultural area. Located on the 2100 block between Grant and Lincoln Avenues, this was the only factory of its kind in the Intermountain region. It provided metal cans for canneries throughout the region, producing 125 million cans per year by 1929.

The first 21<sup>st</sup>-century tenant of the restored complex, a technology high school, is already up and running. This charter high school is a public-private partnership and offers such facilities as science labs, computer labs, robotics labs, and more. The owner of the complex plans to rent the other buildings to tech-based companies. Now that the complex has earned National Register designation, the owner can take advantage of federal tax credits in rehabilitating the historic buildings. # # #